IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Confirmation No. Unknown

Masanori SUEOKA et al.

International Application No. PCT/JP2004/016726

I.A. Filing Date: November 11, 2004

U.S. Serial Number: 10/578,921 (unofficial)

Atty. Dkt. Number: BAN-001

Cust. No.: 20374

UNDER 37 C.F.R. \$1.97(b)

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 25, 2006

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each document is attached.

No fee or statement is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the last of (1) issuance of a first official action on the merits and (2) expiration of the three month period following filing of the above-captioned application.

Document FA is not in the English language. However, the

concise explanation of the relevance of the document under 37 C.F.R. \$1.98 is believed to be satisfied since the document includes an English language abstract thereof.

Documents FB, FD to FL, FN and FO are not in the English language. However, the concise explanation of the relevance of the documents under 37 C.F.R. \$1.98 is believed to be satisfied by the submission of English language abstracts thereof.

Documents FC and FM are not in the English language. However, the concise explanation of the relevance of the documents under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 is believed to be satisfied by the submission of partial English language translations thereof.

Please note that documents FC and FI to FM are described in the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 23 (paragraph [0004]), of the specification of the present application. Documents FD and FN are described in the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 3. Document FO is described in the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 6 (paragraph [0005]).

Please note that documents FA to FH have been cited in the International Search Report of the present application. A copy of the search report is attached hereto. Please note an Examiner's obligation to consider documents cited in an International Search Report according to the provisions of MPEP \$1893.03(g).

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 111833 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments: PTO-1449

15 Documents

International Search Report

Attv. Docket No. Serial No. INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BAN-001 10/578,921 (unofficial) Applicant: Masanori SUEOKA et al. PTO-1449 Filing Date: Group: May 9, 2006 Unknown U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Examiner's Filing Date Document No. Date Name Class Sub Initial Class If appropriate UA UB FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Document No. Date Country Translation Yes/No/Partial Initial /LF FA 00/18564 03/26/90 wo Abstract /LF 2001-294683 A љ FB 10/23/01 Abstract /LF/ JР FF 2952907 B2 07/16/99 Partial Translation /LF/ FD 2003-160676 A 06/03/03 л Abstract /I F/ FF 09-169860 A 06/30/97 JР Abstract ЛР /LE/ FF 02-037519 A 02/07/90 Abstract 10/12/99 љ /LF/ FG 11-279293 A Abstract FH 07-223288 A 08/22/95 л Abstract /I E/ /LF/ FF 02-084328 A 03/26/90 л Abstract /LF/ FF 04/25/90 IP 02-112935 A Abstract /LF/ FK 03/15/91 JP 03-060181 A Abstract /LF/ FL 06-136156 A 05/17/94 л Abstract A FA FM 2853036 B2 11/20/98 ΤP Partial Translation FN 08-297829 A 11/12/96 TP Abstract /LF/ /LF/ FΟ 06/28/94 IP 06-180836 A Abstract OTHER DOCUMENTS Examiner's Initial DA

Examiner:	/Louis Falasco/	Date Considered:	06/17/2008